

Statistics Weekly

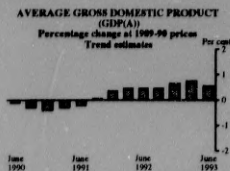
Thursday, 12 August 1993

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statistics



Modest economic growth maintained through June quarter

The trend estimate of GDP(A), the average of the three independent measures of Australia's Gross Domestic Product, rose by 0.6 per cent in real terms in the June quarter following a 0.8 per cent rise in the previous three months. The trend level of GDP(A) is now 2.8 per cent higher than it was in the June quarter 1992.

The June quarter rise in GDP(A) stemmed from increases in each of the three detailed measures. The income based measure GDP(I) rose by 0.6 per cent; the expenditure based measure GDP(E) by 0.6 per cent despite another fall in private sector investment; and the production based measure GDP(P) by 0.8 per cent with manufacturing leading the way.

All the corresponding seasonally adjusted constant price estimates rose more strongly than the trend estimates in the June quarter. GDP(A) was up 1.2 per cent, due to increases of 1.2 per cent in GDP(I), 1.1 per cent in GDP(E), and 1.3 per cent in GDP(P).

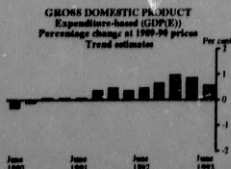
**MAIN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE-BASED NATIONAL ACCOUNTS
AGGREGATES AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES, JUNE QUARTER 1993**
Percentage change in trend estimates

	From previous quarter	From corresponding quarter of previous year
Final consumption expenditure		
Private	0.6	2.0
Government	2.0	5.5
Gross fixed capital expenditure		
Private	-1.4	2.1
Public	4.0	-1.0
Gross national expenditure	0.6	2.8
Exports of goods and services	1.2	6.4
Imports of goods and services	1.4	5.0
Gross domestic product (E)	0.6	3.1
Gross domestic product (I)	0.6	2.3

Income and expenditure based GDP both up 0.6 per cent

The latest increase in trend estimates of GDP(E) featured:

- ☐ modest growth in private final consumption expenditure;
- ☐ a strong increase in government final consumption expenditure;
- ☐ the seventh successive increase in private capital expenditure on dwellings (up 1.3%);
- ☐ business investment down 3.0 per cent;
- ☐ public investment up 4.0 per cent; and
- ☐ a build-up in private non-farm stocks.



Trend private final consumption expenditure rose 0.6 per cent to be 2.0 per cent higher than in the June quarter 1992. Household durables, health and dwelling rent were the major contributors to growth. However, the rate of growth was reduced somewhat by declines in purchases of motor vehicles and net expenditure overseas.

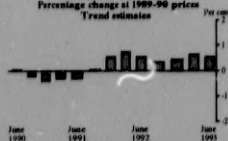
The trend estimates for total gross fixed capital expenditure were flat in the June quarter 1993. The private sector fall of 1.4 per cent was offset by a 4.0 per cent rise for the public sector, with public enterprises up 6.0 per cent and general government up 1.8 per cent. Private dwellings were up 1.3 per cent, although the rate of increase slowed during 1992-93. Private equipment fell 1.5 per cent, while non-dwelling construction continued to fall, dropping 6.3 per cent.

The trend estimates for private non-farm stocks increased by \$199 million in the June quarter following a large seasonally adjusted rise of \$505 million. This is the first significant increase in seasonally adjusted private non-farm stocks since the March quarter 1990. However, the trend rise in private non-farm stocks was more than offset by falls in farm and other public authorities' stocks. Exports of goods and services increased 1.2 per cent, while imports of goods and services rose 1.4 per cent in the quarter.

The stocks-to-sales ratio, derived from trend data, increased marginally from 0.916 in the March quarter to 0.917 in the June quarter. The trend imports-to-sales ratio continued rising to reach a record high of 0.227 in the June quarter from 0.223 in the March quarter 1993.

Australia's terms of trade fell 0.5 per cent from 88.9 in the March quarter 1993 to 88.4 in the June quarter.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
Income-based (GDP(I))
Percentage change at 1989-90 prices
Trend estimates



Trend income components at current prices

Wages, salaries and supplements fell 0.1 per cent in the June quarter 1993, reflecting a fall of 0.1 per cent in the underlying average earnings and no change in the number of wage and salary earners. Gross operating surplus of private corporate trading enterprises rose 3.7 per cent following a similar rise of 3.8 per cent in the March quarter.

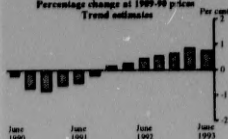
Production-based GDP — trend up by 0.8 per cent

The trend estimates of production-based gross domestic product, GDP(P), increased by 0.8 per cent in the June quarter 1993. GDP(P) has now recorded sustained growth since the December quarter 1991. Continuing the pattern over the past few quarters, growth in the June quarter was widespread — with nine of the thirteen industry groups showing increases.

Details of the more noteworthy changes in industry trend estimates for the June quarter 1993 are:

- Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting declined by 0.6 per cent. Despite this fall, the industry has now grown by 3.8 per cent since the June quarter 1992, largely reflecting growth in the farm sector. Wheat and sugar are the two crops mainly responsible for this growth.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
Production-based (GDP(P))
Percentage change at 1989-90 prices
Trend estimates



- Mining increased by 0.7 per cent. Since the June quarter 1992 the industry has actually decreased by 0.2 per cent.
- Manufacturing continued to grow, registering an increase of 2.1 per cent this quarter, the fourth in succession after a long period of decline. Since the June quarter of 1992, manufacturing has grown by 6.1 per cent. The two sectors which contributed most to the increase this quarter were food and basic metals.
- Construction has now recorded growth in each of the last four quarters, the last being 0.6 per cent in the June quarter. Dwelling construction is largely responsible for this growth.
- Wholesale trade increased by 1.6 per cent this quarter and has now grown by 4.6 per cent since the June quarter 1992. Retail trade increased by 0.6 per cent which is healthier growth than experienced earlier in 1992-93.
- Transport and storage increased by 1.6 per cent and has now grown by 6.0 per cent since the June quarter 1992, largely due to the air transport sector which has grown by 14.6 per cent over the same period.

The trend estimate of labour productivity (constant price gross product per hour worked) in the market sector rose modestly in the June quarter by 0.4 per cent. Since the December quarter 1990, labour productivity (in the market sector) has increased by 3.7 per cent.

GROSS PRODUCT, JUNE QUARTER 1993
Trend estimates at average 1989-90 prices

	Gross product (\$ million)	Percentage change from Previous quarter	Corresponding quarter of previous year
Manufacturing	13,774	2.1	6.1
Finance, property and business services	11,256	-0.2	0.6
Community services	11,112	0.6	0.8
Retail	8,990	0.6	1.4
Wholesale	7,581	1.6	4.6
Construction	6,525	0.6	4.8
Transport and storage	4,791	1.6	6.0
Mining	4,292	0.7	-0.2
Recreation, personal and other services	4,089	0.7	2.4
Agriculture, etc.	3,999	-0.6	3.8
Public administration and defence	3,464	-0.7	-2.2
Electricity, gas and water	3,125	1.9	3.2
Communication	2,425	-0.3	5.9
Other (ownership of dwellings, import duties, etc.)	8,127	0.6	4.0
Gross domestic product (GDP(P))	93,550	0.8	2.9

For further information, order the publication *Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product* (5206.0), or contact Joe Jackson on (06) 252 6708 concerning constant price expenditure estimates or Paul Curran on (06) 252 6801 concerning constant price industry estimates.

Household safety in Sydney

Over 99 per cent of the 213,200 Sydney households with private swimming pools had some type of fence enclosing the pool. However, over half (51.7%) had at least one major fence safety feature missing; in terms of fence height, type, location, and gate safety features.

A survey of safety in Sydney's households, conducted in November 1992, also found that an estimated 133,100, or 10.2 per cent of households, had smoke detectors installed.

Electrical safety switches were present in 21.2 per cent of all households with the majority installed at the switchboard. Some 26.1 per cent of households which owned their homes had a safety switch compared with 9.7 per cent of households which rented.

The main storage location for medicines was a cupboard 1.5 metres or higher for 62.0 per cent of all households and 65.3 per cent of those households with children 0 to 4 years. Cleaning products on the other hand were most likely to be stored in a cupboard lower than 1.5 metres. This location was used by 71.5 per cent of all households and 41.2 per cent of those households with children 0 to 4 years.

For home maintenance products such as petrol, weed killers and pool chlorine, the main storage area for 52.1 per cent of all households and 56.2 per cent of those with children 0 to 4 years was the garage or a shed.

Of households with young children: 14.2 per cent stored medicines in a child-resistant cupboard; 21.3 per cent stored cleaning products in the same way; and 10.7 per cent stored home maintenance products in a child-resistant cupboard.

For readers interested in comparisons, a report of a similar survey of Melbourne households was published in *Statistics Weekly* on 13 May 1993.

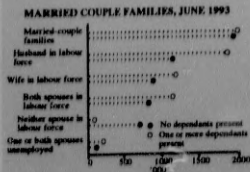
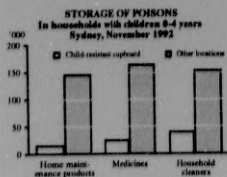
For further information, order the publication *Household Safety, Sydney* (4387.1), or contact Jill Tomlinson on (02) 268 4388.

Labour force status of families

In June 1993 the ABS Labour Force Survey estimated family status for 13,047,200 persons, representing 94 per cent of the civilian population aged 15 years and over. Of these people, 10,897,100 (84%) were members of 4,638,100 families. Some 85 per cent of families were married-couple families, 9 per cent were one-parent families, and 6 per cent were other families. This article presents an overview of the June 1993 family data. Similar information can be obtained every month from tables published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

Married-couple families

In June 1993, there were 3,928,800 married-couple families and there was little difference between the number of these families with dependants present (1,990,500) and those without dependants present (1,938,300).



In married-couple families with dependants in June 1993:

- ☐ one or both partners were in the labour force in 1,904,200 (96%) families;
- ☐ the husband was in the labour force in 1,865,000 (94%) families;
- ☐ the wife was in the labour force in 1,194,100 (60%) families; and
- ☐ both husband and wife were in the labour force in 1,154,900 (58%) families.

In June 1989, the number of married-couple families with one or both partners unemployed was 176,000, the lowest level since July 1982 when the estimate was 154,000. However, in the last four years, the number of married-couple families with one or both partners unemployed has risen by 151,500 (86%) to 327,500.

One-parent families

One-parent families are those in which there is a sole parent together with at least one dependent son or daughter. In June 1993, there were 416,200 one-parent families, of which 368,400 (89%) had a female parent.

Of one-parent families in June 1993, the parent was employed in 45 per cent of families, unemployed in 9 per cent and not in the labour force in 45 per cent.

Of the 188,200 one-parent families in which the parent was not in the labour force, 55 per cent had two or more dependants present. The number of one-parent families in which at least one family member was employed was 207,400 in June 1993 and in all but 18,900 of these families the parent was employed.

ONE-PARENT FAMILIES AND THE LABOUR FORCE, JUNE 1993
'000 families

One-parent families	Parent			Total
	Em- ployed	Unem- ployed	Not in labour force	
With a female parent	157.3	33.6	177.5	368.4
With one dependant present	87.3	20.9	80.5	188.6
With two or more dependants present	70.0	12.7	97.1	179.8
With a male parent	31.2	5.9	10.7	47.8
With one dependant present	18.9	4.5	4.9	28.2
With two or more dependants present	12.4	1.4	5.8	19.6

Other families

In June 1993, there were an estimated 293,100 'other' families in Australia. 'Other' families include families in which there is a parent with only non-dependent children present, and families in which there is no parent, e.g., two sisters living together in the same household.

Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- ☐ through its bookshops
- ☐ by mail order
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Statistics Weekly
12 August 1993

Order from the following:

Expected releases over the fortnight to 24 August

- 11 Quarterly Indexes of Industrial Production, Australia, June Quarter 1993 (\$125.0; \$10.70)
- 12 Balance of Payments, Australia, June Quarter 1993 (\$302.0; \$21.40)
Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia, June 1993 (\$609.0; \$10.70)
The Labour Force, Australia, July 1993, Preliminary (\$620.0; \$10.70)
- 16 Private New Capital Expenditure, Australia, Actual and Expected Expenditure to June 1994, June Quarter 1993 Survey, Preliminary (\$625.0; \$10.70)
Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, June 1993 (\$407.0; \$10.70)
Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, June 1993 (\$408.0; \$8.20)
Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia, June 1993 (\$412.0; \$10.70)
- 18 Export Price Index, Australia, June 1993 (\$405.0; \$8.20)
- 19 Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia, May 1993 (\$302.0; \$12.70)
Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia, June 1993 (\$411.0; \$10.70)
Import Price Index, Australia, June 1993 (\$414.0; \$8.20)
- 24 Stocks, Manufacturers' Sales and Expected Sales, Australia, June Quarter 1993 (\$629.0; \$10.70)

Selected releases: 4 to 10 August

General

South Australian Economic Indicators, August 1993 (\$307.4; \$10.50)
Tasmanian Pocket Yearbook, 1993 (\$302.6; \$8.50)

Demography

Estimated Resident Population in Statistical Local Areas, Vic., Revised Intercensal Estimates, 1986 to 1991 (\$302.2; \$25.00)

Social statistics

South Aust.'s Young People, August 1991 (\$123.4; \$12.50) — *new issue*

National accounts, Finance and Foreign trade

Foreign Trade, Aust.: Merchandise Imports, June 1993 (\$433.0; \$9.70)
Government Finance Statistics, Aust., 1991-92 (\$512.0; \$20.40)

Labour statistics and Prices

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Aust., June 1993 (\$312.0; \$12.70)
Labour Costs, Aust., 1991-92 (\$348.0; \$25.00)
Price Indexes of Copper Materials, Aust., July 1993 (\$410.0; \$5.60)
Price Indexes of Materials Used in Coal Mining, Aust., June 1993 (\$415.0; \$10.70)

Agriculture

Agricultural Industries, Financial Statistics, Aust., 1991-92 (\$707.0; \$27.50)

Manufacturing, Mining, Energy, Service Industries,

Building and Construction

Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Food, Drink, Tobacco, Stock and Poultry Food, May 1993 (\$359.0; \$10.70)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Fibres, Yarns, Fabrics, Bedding and Floor Coverings, May 1993 (\$360.0; \$10.70)
Building Activity, NSW, March Qtr 1993 (\$752.1; \$10.70)
Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Vic., May 1993 (\$741.2; \$10.70)
Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Qld, April 1993 (\$741.3; \$10.70)

Key national indicators	Period	Units	Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
National accounts						
Gross domestic product (GDP(A)) at 1989-90 prices	June qtr 93	\$m	n.a.	95,250	1.2	3.3
International accounts						
Balance on current account (b)	June 93	\$m	-1,364	-1,433	-8	-3
Balance on merchandise trade (b)	"	"	138	-180	—	—
Balance on goods and services (b)	"	"	-166	-310	-53	-37
Merchandise exports	"	"	5,099	5,039	-2	6
Merchandise imports	"	"	-4,961	-5,219	1	11
Net foreign debt	31 Mar. 93	\$m	160,615	n.a.	-3.9	7.9
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	208,338	n.a.	-1.5	6.8
Consumption and investment						
Retail turnover at current prices	June 93	\$m	7,873	8,201	-1.2	4.0
New capital expenditure at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	"	5,362	6,017	-7.0	6.3
New motor vehicle registrations	June 93	no.	53,319	48,255	9.3	-2.6
Production						
Manufacturers' sales at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	\$m	31,512	33,677	1.1	2.3
Dwelling unit approvals	June 93	no.	15,421	14,033	0.2	3.8
Building approvals	"	\$m	2,131	2,010	8.4	17.1
Building work done at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	"	5,748	6,207	0.8	6.9
Prices						
Consumer price index	June qtr 93	1989-90 = 100.0	109.3	n.a.	0.4	1.9
Articles produced by manufacturing industry	May 93	1988-89 = 100.0	114.7	n.a.	0.3	2.1
Materials used in manufacturing industries	May 93	1984-85 = 100.0	124.5	n.a.	-0.2	1.7
Labour force and demography						
Employed persons (c)	June 93	'000	7,741.7	7,736.0	0.5	0.5
Participation rate † (c)	"	%	62.5	62.8	0.8	-0.4
Unemployment rate † (c)	"	%	10.6	11.1	3.5	0.0
Job vacancies	May 93	'000	30.2	11.6	9.5	24.3
Average weekly overtime per employee	"	hours	1.18	1.20	3.5	8.4
Estimated resident population (d)	Dec. qtr 92	million	17.6	n.a.	0.2	1.1
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals	Apr. 93	'000	226	241	-4.8	10.7
Incomes						
Company profits before income tax	Mar. qtr 93	\$m	3,850	4,887	23.9	36.9
Av. weekly earnings, full-time adults; ordinary time	May qtr 93	\$	598.00	n.a.	0.7	1.8
Financial markets						
Interest rates (c) (monthly average)						
90-day bank bills †	June 93	% per annum	5.25	n.a.	0.10	-1.15
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	"	7.35	n.a.	-0.35	-1.55
Exchange rate — \$US	June 93	per \$A	0.6751	n.a.	-3	-11

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (c) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (d) Later figures expected to be released Wednesday, 11 August 1993 (e) Later figures expected to be released Thursday, 12 August 1993.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Percentage change from same period previous year

Key State indicators

	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New capital expenditure*	Mar. qtr 93	6.6	2.7	-14.0	2.2	31.5	1.0	n.a.	n.a.	3.2
Retail turnover (trend estimate)	June 93	-0.5	6.0	5.4	3.0	11.5	0.8	n.a.	8.9	3.6
New motor vehicle registrations†	June 93	-23.1	6.6	20.1	3.2	28.6	1.5	42.9	-16.5	-2.6
Number of dwelling unit approvals*	June 93	-5.3	3.8	13.7	-8.0	14.1	-3.3	141.0	-15.3	3.8
Value of total building work done	Mar. qtr 93	3.2	2.0	16.0	0.8	35.9	-0.5	-10.8	-6.2	7.5
Employed persons*	June 93	-0.9	-1.1	3.0	1.6	3.6	2.1	-5.5	4.6	0.5
Capital city consumer price index	June qtr 93	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.9
Av. weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time)	Feb. qtr 93	-1.5	1.8	3.2	1.7	0.3	2.7	4.2	3.2	0.8
Population	Dec. qtr 92	0.9	0.5	2.5	0.5	1.2	0.5	1.0	1.5	1.1
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc.	Mar. qtr 93	6.7	2.3	14.1	-2.5	2.1	10.5	6.1	14.6	7.0

* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted except for Tas., NT and ACT.

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